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The Heritage of Henderson County North Carolina Volume II — 1988

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HERITAGE OF HENDERSON COUNTY,
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GEORGIA ROOM
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MARIETTA, GEORGIA

moved to Spartanburg, South Carolina. Their seven children were: Fred McKillop; Roy McKillop; Carl McKillop; Grace McKillop, who married a Laster; Beulah McKillopp, who married first Joe Floyd Schrimsher and second Joseph R. Hines; Myrtle McKillopp, who married a Cook; and Gladys McKillopp.

John Bunion Gilbert (4 April 1894 — 20 June 1975) who married first Myrtle Merrill (7 September 1900 — 13 March 1932). Their children were: Robert Alvin Gilbert, who married Patricia Ann Battes; Margaret Lois Gilbert, who married J.B. McC Carson; and John M. Gilbert (13 March 1932 — 16 June 1933). Myrtle died shortly after giving birth to John M. Gilbert. John Bunion Gilbert married second Eula Janette Watson. Their children were: Kenneth Ray Gilbert, who married Delois Owensby; Grady Alton Gilbert, who married Linda Nichols; Winnifred Ann Gilbert; Donald Edgar Gilbert, who married Janice Patterson; Alice Marita Gilbert, who married Willard Douglas "Bill" Blackwell; Melba Jean Gilbert, who married Charles Robert "Bobby" Huggins; and Rose Karen Gilbert, who married Danny Joe Bullman.

Sources: *Brief Baptist Biographies 1707-1982*, Volume Two, Family Bible records, census records, courthouse records, military records, and family knowledge. Special thanks to my mother, Olsie Dalton Gilbert, who spent many hours of research to obtain this information.

— Elaine Gilbert Frost

CARTER WILSON AND MATTIE MORRIS GILLESPIE

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Captain Carter W. Gillespie, the first of thirteen children born to Jackson Gillespie and Mary Smith Porter Gillespie, was interred in a Northern prison cemetery on Johnson's Island in Ohio. He was commissioned 15 July 1862 in Company D, 65th Regiment, 6th Cavalry, North Carolina Confederate Army. He was taken prisoner at Simpson's Ford, Kentucky 3 June 1863 and was sent to Camp Chase, Ohio. On 20 June 1863, he was transferred to Johnson's Island, Ohio where he died of fever 9 September 1863. Although he spent less than fifteen months in the army, he suffered many agonies and hardships. Often supplies were low and disease was rampant. Mumps, measles, smallpox, and other maladies swept through their ranks. His brother, Sergeant James R. Gillespie, was ill for many weeks. C.W. Gillespie's greatest agony was the difficulty in getting mail. In his letters, he often begged his wife to write to him. After the death of Carter his brother, James R. Gillespie, visited Carter's grave and had these words of comfort for his sister-in-law, "His grave is nicely covered with grass. I send you some from off his grave. Some ladies and gentlemen came to the burial ground as I was leaving. I showed them his grave. I left a bunch of flowers upon the grave".

His parents, Jackson Gillespie and Mary Smith Porter Gillespie were married 6 November 1834. Jackson Gillespie was born 6 May 1813 and died 4 May 1894. His wife was born 18 July 1819 and died 13 September

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Headstone of Carter W. Gillespie, Johnson's Island, Ohio.

1900. They are buried in the family cemetery in East Fork, North Carolina. Carter Gillespie was a grandson of Robert Harvey Gillespie (1 February 1791 — 29 May 1881) and Sarah Akin Gillespie (31 January 1795 — 18 November 1872). Robert married Sarah Akin 3 May 1812. Both are buried at East Fork. Carter was a great-grandson of John Gillespie (circa 1753 — 7 April 1822) and Jane Harvey Gillespie (17 April 1762 — 26 April 1808). John Gillespie was well known in the East Fork and Mills River area of Henderson County, North Carolina as a maker of the famous Gillespie Long Rifles. He was married to Jane Harvey 13 August 1779. They are buried at East Fork, North Carolina.

Carter Wilson Gillespie was born 21 November 1835 and was married to Mattie A. Morris 14 April 1859. To this union two sons were born. William Morris Gillespie was born at Hendersonville, North Carolina 2 July 1860 and James, who was called "Buddy" by his father, was born in 1862. James died as an infant. William Morris Gillespie died 27 December 1943 at Altus, Oklahoma. He married Mae Mariar Lindsey (6 March 1868 — 17 August 1936) and was the father of seven sons and three daughters. They are both buried at Altus, Oklahoma.

Carter Gillespie was a lawyer by trade. He practiced law in and around Henderson County, North Carolina. On 24 September 1861, he was appointed State Attorney. He traveled from his home in Hendersonville to Asheville and other cities as his job demanded his presence. In a letter to a sister-in-law he says, "I have done a pretty good business on the state docket". He mentions that he is one of four attorneys working at Asheville.

Carter Gillespie was a prolific writer. He kept a diary in which he put his innermost thoughts. He wrote to many members of his family and to his wife's family. The editor of the *Pressage*, a local newspaper, was ill and C.W. Gillespie

took on the job of editor. R1325/2
On 7 May 1860, he writes, "We hear today of the evacuation of Yorktown by our forces. What in common sense do our forces mean by surrendering place after place". He goes on to say, "It is certainly evidence of great weakness, or that our generals are out-generaled". He also describes the evacuation of Charleston, South Carolina. On Friday 17 January 1862, he writes from Charleston, South Carolina, "I saw Lincoln's blockading fleet at Fort Sumter, saw the cannon fire, went on board of a ship, and looked around, saw the deep blue sea . . ." On 15 May 1862, he tells his sister-in-law, "I learn now that the Merrimac is burned and that our forces have abandoned Portsmouth and Buffalo". He goes on to talk about the change in attitude of the people about Jefferson Davis and Governor Pickens. In each letter to his wife Mattie, he always ends with kisses for her and for his children.

Sources: Information given by Bert J. Sitton, court records from Henderson County court records, Sandusky, Ohio library and court records, cemetery gravestone at Johnson's Island, Ohio, letters from C.W. Gillespie and personal knowledge.

— Foncie Gillespie Dees

WILLIAM GILLESPIE

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William Gillespie (1795) was born in North Carolina. He married Louvenia (1802). Their children were: Paul (1826) born in South Carolina, who married Jane (1830); born in South Carolina; Sarah Ann (1832) born in South Carolina; Adeline (1833) who married a Shelton; William, Junior (1834) born in South Carolina, who married Mary E. (1833) born in South Carolina; Jane (1837) born in South Carolina; Jerimiah M. (1838) born in South Carolina, who married Tinesy Smith (1836) born in South Carolina; Greenlee (11 February 1824 — 29 May 1894) who married first, Susan (1828) and second, Charity (19 August 1838 — 12 January 1906).

Paul Gillespie (1826) son of William and Louvenia, was born in South Carolina who married Jane (1834) also born in South Carolina. Their children were: William (1858); Mary (1860); James (1864); Elizabeth (1866); Susan (1868); and Benjamin (1869). All the children except Benjamin were born in South Carolina.

Adeline Gillespie (1833) daughter of William and Louvenia, married a Shelton. Their children were Frances, William, Mary, John, and Jesse.

William Gillespie, Junior (1834), second son of William and Louvenia, born in South Carolina, married Mary E. (1833). Their children were: Dorcus (1855); David (1859); Martha (1861); James (1866); and Mary A. (1868). Dorcus, David and Martha were born in South Carolina.

Jerimiah M. Gillespie (1838), born in South Carolina, married Tinesy Smith (1836). Their children were: America (1856) born in South Carolina; Lawrence O. (1858) born in South Carolina, who married Mary Jane Sheldon; Jerimiah Doyle, Senior (7 May 1865 — 29 June 1929) who married Florence Carolina

Francisco Junior College and followed a career in business. She met Harry Lawrence Kriedt (25 September 1912) and married him 4 May 1941 in San Francisco, where he was in a radio profession. During World War II, he continued in radio work with the Office of War Information, Overseas Branch. Following the war, he developed a business in Trade Show Decorating.

Myrtle and Harry have three sons: David "Dave" Hamilton (18 July 1943), Daniel "Dan" Furman (10 September 1945), and Martin "Marty" Lawrence (13 May 1948). Dave married 15 June 1982 Suzanne Bergeron (25 July 1955). They have a daughter Adrienne Bergeron (15 October 1983) and a son, Wesley Hamilton (25 August 1985) and reside in Oakland, California. Dan married Victoria Huerta (26 February 1943) and their two sons are: James Gerhardt (5 October 1978); and Garrett Alton (27 February 1982). They make their home in Alameda, California. Dan started his own business in Trade Show Decorating and brought his brother, Dave, in with him. Marty married 10 July 1976 Debbi Strzykalski (27 September 1950). They have a son, Todd Martin (6 December 1978) and a daughter, Kristin Erin (17 December 1980). Marty is a building contractor. Marty and Debbi are making their home in Transylvania County, North Carolina.

Sources: Personal and family knowledge.

— Mrs. Myrtle Hamilton Kriedt

THE JOSEPH HAMILTON FAMILY

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Joseph Hamilton (22 January 1854 — 24 December 1933) was the son of Voltaire Cordorsed Volney Hamilton (19 June 1822 — 12 May 1908) and Elizabeth Evans Hamilton (11 July 1827 — 1 August 1898). Joseph married 10 February 1977 Jane Huggins (14 March 1858 — 2 June 1926).

Joseph Hamilton was known as friendly person who never turned a stranger away from his door. He loved people and was always hospitable in his home which was located about a mile below Crab Creek Baptist Church in Henderson County, North Carolina. Today, only a lonely chimney stands as a reminder of the house and of the family.

Joseph ministered to numerous sick people in the area. He was able to stop the "flow of blood" from people who had been involved in injuries and he would walk for miles to reach people in need of his help.

Joseph shared many of the same characteristics attributed to other members of the Hamilton family. He was a great reader of books and newspapers. He was interested in politics and had strong opinions on local and national affairs. He had a great interest in family history and related many stories to his children and grandchildren.

Joseph was a man of many talents. He mended shoes for his family and others. He was a farmer, and a capable carpenter. He made caskets, without charge, for local people, and

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Joseph Hamilton



Joseph and Jane Hamilton.

helped to dig graves.

Sophia McCall (19 December 1905), his granddaughter, remembers that he helped built the first house which she and her husband, Roscoe (7 April 1899) had and he also helped build their corncrib in 1926.

In 1917, Sophia and her grandfather went by wagon to Greenville, South Carolina. They cooked, ate, and camped along the road. She remembers meeting only three cars between home and Greenville. As they met other travelers, they always stopped, chatted, and caught up on the latest news.

Jane Huggins Hamilton was known as good neighbor and homemaker. She loved her family, and showed her love in special ways. She was a good dressmaker and made most of their clothing. She carded wool and spun yarn for making sweaters, caps, socks and mittens. Jane did lovely crocheting and tatting. She enjoyed making quilts and often asked relatives for scraps of cloth to use in making fine quilts.

Jane Hamilton loved music and played the old pump-organ well. "Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing" was a favorite hymn. The family enjoyed their family "singings."

A large tract of land, in Henderson County, was given to Jane Hamilton by her parents, John Boone and Sarah Sentell Huggins.

Today, much of this land lies within the boundaries of the Holmes State Park. Thelma Justus, a grandchild, lives on a part of the original family land. She remembers her grandmother telling about a one-room school building which once stood there. Sarah Huggins, Thelma's grandmother, who was a widow, donated the land for the school. Some of the rock foundation of that building remains today.

The Joseph Hamilton family left the mountains, briefly, circa 1914. They worked in the textile mills in Greenville, South Carolina. Soon the lure of the mountains brought them home again.

Joseph and Jane Hamilton had eight children. Marian (25 December 1877 — 21 December 1950) who married Judson Patterson; Elizabeth (17 May 1880 — 29 September 1962) who married Alfred Bowen McCall; Pelzer "Pete" (23 November 1882 — 30 May 1954) who never married; Sophia Naomi (20 April 1885 - 28 June 1966) who never married; Raleigh (21 March 1887 — 4 July 1922) who married Gola May Smith; Devereaux Oliver Depew (24 May 1889 — 26 August 1975) who married Maggie Osteen; Flave Pearson (23 October 1892 — 28 May 1893); and Bessie (14 December 1894 — 30 October 1978) who married Terrell Edron Wright.

Church records from both Holly Springs Baptist Church and the Crab Creek Baptist Church reveal names of family members. Most of the family are buried at Crab Creek Baptist Church Cemetery.

Sources: Hamilton family records and personal knowledge.

— Thelma Justus

MANSON AND MARY PATTERSON HAMILTON

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Manson Hamilton (8 November 1860 — 16 July 1935) and Mary Patterson (17 February 1865 — 22 May 1948) lived in the Crab Creek community of Henderson County, North Carolina. My father, Neal (13 March 1892 — 21 November 1978) was one of their children. My mother is Love McCrary Hamilton (5 May 1898).

I am the oldest granddaughter and have very fond memories of visiting them. For many years we lived only a mile or less away, so that was just a good walk. I can remember, in later years, walking five miles with Daddy to visit them for the weekend.

When I was small, Mama would take me to see Grandma and Grandpa Hamilton. Mama would caution me not to ask for anything to eat. I usually asked anyway, as Grandma was such a good cook and always had "something sweet." She could make the best blackberry jam I ever tasted!

There was a memorable yearly visit in November. As it happened, 8 November was not only Grandpa's birthday, but also my grandparent's wedding anniversary. There was a great gathering of the whole Hamilton clan to celebrate. What fun we had with all the

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cousins, aunts, and uncles!

Old records reveal that Grandma and Grandpa moved their church letters from Crab Creek Baptist Church to Holly Springs Baptist Church in 1922. Grandma was a much loved Sunday School teacher for many years. I remember being in her class of little children. She was affectionately known as Aunt Mary. Some folks even called her a "saint on earth." She truly was the kindest person I have ever known. I loved her dearly.

I loved and respected Grandpa too, but remember being somewhat in awe of him. He was a hardworking farmer and logger. His name appears frequently on old papers such as land deeds and tax receipts. Grandpa and his brother, Frank (11 April 1852 — 24 November 1939) were the executors of the estate of their father Voltaire Condorsed Volney (19 June 1822 — 12 May 1908) in the year 1906.

The Manson Hamilton family seemed to have been more progressive than some folks of that time. My grandparents lived in a beautiful white house with wide porches on two sides. In the 1920s, they had a Delco light plant which provided light for every room. Electricity was not available in the community until after World War II. Grandpa had a hand pump and water tank installed in the springhouse. I loved pumping the tank full so there would be running water in the kitchen. I even enjoyed cleaning the white sink, and vowed to own one, too, someday.

I have many other memories, also. There was a crank telephone, one of the first and very few in the whole mountain countryside. The living room had both the old pump organ and a large piano. As a youngster, Daddy had learned to play the organ. The gramophone, cranked by hand, was especially popular with the young folks.

The Hamiltons believed in education beyond the public school level of eighth grade. All, except one of the children who reached adulthood, attended a boarding school called Fruit-

land Institute. Several of them became teachers. They attended Asheville Normal School during the summer.

After Grandpa's death, I stayed with Grandma during my last year of high school. I milked the cow and helped on the farm. We had some great talks together. She definitely influenced my moral and Christian life.

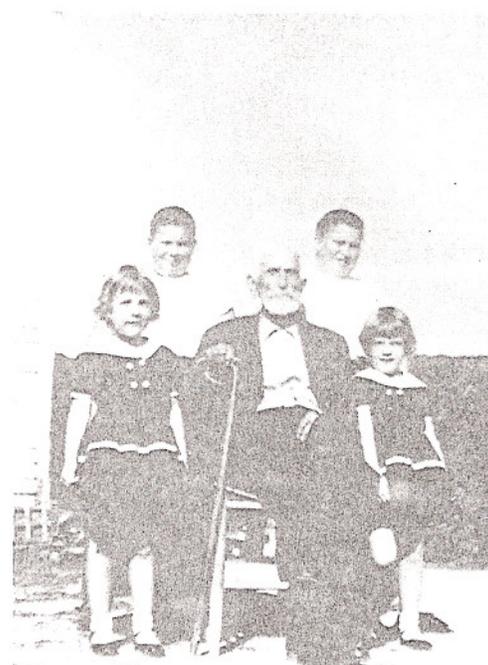
Since I was the oldest granddaughter, I was expected, and wanted, to become a teacher. The Great Depression, and Daddy's inability to help financially, kept that dream from becoming a reality. Later, my sister, Mary Lou, and several cousins were able to follow the family tradition of going into the profession.

Grandma, in her usual quiet way, accepted my decision to go into nurses' training, with its low tuition rates. Both she and I accepted that as being God's will for my life. I regret that I was not able to be with her in her later years to show more of the true love which I felt for her.

Mary and Manson Hamilton had eleven children. Arthur was born 4 February 1885 and died 13 August 1951. He never married. The next child, Ansel Lowery (9 February 1886 — 5 May 1926) married Sally Picklesimer (9 February 1893 — 12 November 1985). Nellie Naomi (21 August 1888 — 24 June 1959) married Arthur Picklesimer (25 July 1888 — 8 March 1985). William Neal (13 March 1892 — 21 November 1978) married Loveda McCrary (5 May 1898). Rosa (9 April 1894 — 19 December 1951) married Wade Bagwell. Clyde (9 August 1895 — 28 January 1983) married Hyburnia Shipman (23 September 1903). Julia Hester (21 August 1897) married Tavey Harold Hart (26 October 1895 — 29 April 1968). Gladys Thalia (22 July 1899) married Tom Whitlock, who died 17 April 1984. Dora was born 17 April 1901 and died in 1904. Lora Bell (15 June 1905) married Harold Patterson (6 August 1903 — 3 August 1984).

Sources: Hamilton family records and personal knowledge.

— Juanita Hamilton Webster



Daniel Alexander McCrary on his 100th birthday 1956. Great-grandchildren (twins) Billy and Benny McCrary and Marsh and Suzanne Rhodes.



Love and Neal Hamilton 1971 54th Wedding Anniversary.



Mary Patterson Hamilton, age eighty.

NEAL AND LOVE HAMILTON

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William Neal Hamilton (13 March 1892 — 21 November 1978) was the son of Manson Hamilton (8 November 1860 — 26 July 1935) and Mary Patterson Hamilton (17 February 1865 — 22 May 1948). He was the grandson of Voltaire Cordorsed Volney Hamilton (19 June 1822 — 12 May 1908) and the great-grandson of Robert Frankiin Hamilton (11 January 1770 — 1882), who came from Ireland in 1791.

Neal married Loveda McCrary (5 May 1898) on 18 December 1917. Loveda is the daughter of Daniel Alexander McCrary (11 October 1856 — 10 November 1957) and Lucinda Morris McCrary (18 May 1856 — 13 March 1938). Her grandfather was Alexander McCrary (1822 — ca. 1864), who died while serving as a Confederate soldier during the Civil War.

Loveda (always called "Love") grew up on the other side of the mountain from Neal, in the Mud Creek Community of Henderson County,

North Carolina. Neal grew up in the Crab Creek area of Henderson-Transylvania Counties. Both of them came from large farm families whose members must surely have worked hard and enjoyed life to the fullest.

Life seems to have centered around church, school, and family activities. Neal and other family members were especially interested in the "three R's" and music. He worked his way through Fruitland Institute, a private academy. At that time, the public school training ended with eighth grade. Several members of his family also attended Fruitland Institute and became teachers.

Over a long period of time, Neal earned his living in several occupations. In the early 1900s, he served as depot agent at Penrose, North Carolina, when mail traveled faster by train than by present methods. At one time, he and his brother Ansel (9 February 1886 — 5 May 1926) were operators of a livery stable in Brevard. For several years he was a logger. Roscoe McCall (7 April 1899), a friend, still laughs about a skunk's midnight visit to the logging camp at Green River.

Neal was a grocer for a few years, but primarily he earned his living as a farmer. His